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J. Albert Moore

THE BOOK OF MORMON

PROVED TO BE

A FRAUD



— AND —

LATTER DAY SAINTS

SHOWN TO BE

BUILDING UPON A FALSE
FOUNDATION

PRICE: 20c EACH; \$1.50 PER DOZEN

BY

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The Book of Mormon Proved to be a Fraud.

The name Mormon is said to be taken from the reformed Egyptian and to mean "more good," to be the name of a man. This is not true. The word "Mormon" is a Greek word anglicized. It means "hobgoblin," "bugbear," "hideous she-monster." You will find it in Liddell and Scott's large unabridged Greek-English lexicon. Hence the Book of Mormon means the book of hobgoblins, book of bug-bears, book of hideous she-monsters, used by nurses to frighten children with.

Latter Day Saints claim that the Book of Mormon is of divine origin and equal in authority to the Bible. Upon it as a basis they have built a strong organization, which they call The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. They have many missionaries in many lands and are making many converts. From Utah they are coming to Canada and are becoming a menace in our Western Provinces, especially Alberta. That every one may know what Latter Day Saintism really is by understanding its origin, I shall proceed at once to prove that the Book of Mormon is not of divine origin but of base human origin gotten up for the purpose of deception and fraud by low and degraded characters. I shall impeach all the witnesses introduced to prove its divine origin, and shall, by many witnesses whose character cannot be impeached, prove that the historical part of the Book of Mormon is taken from a religious novel written by Solomon Spaulding soon after the beginning of last century and that the religious portion of it is stolen from the Bible.

I will now give you a true account of the origin of the Book of Mormon. The historical part of it was written by Solomon Spaulding in the early part of last century.

Solomon Spaulding was born at Ashford, Conn., 1761. He was educated at Plainfield, Conn. Academy, and at Dartmouth College, where he gradu-

ated in 1785. He studied theology and preached for a while as a Presbyterian minister. On account of ill-health he gave up preaching and became Principal of an Academy at Cherry Valley. John Spaulding, his brother, induced him to go out west to a little town then called Salem, now Conneaut, in Ashtabula county, Ohio. Here John Spaulding, Solomon Spaulding and Henry Lake had an iron foundry which they continued to work until 1812, when the war ruined them financially. Solomon Spaulding was sick most of the time and spent his time largely in writing. He was well educated in history and in Greek and Latin. He wrote essays and romances and was one of the first to write and speculate upon the origin of the earth mounds in the Mississippi valley. He had a theory as to the peopling of this continent, and held that it was by a people of refinement and of a civilization that had perished. Out in Ohio, beside the earth mounds, near his house, he became excited and had them investigated. Buried in the mounds were human bones, relics, etc. such as some of us saw at the Chicago Fair, relics of stone, etc. This afforded Spaulding inspiration enough to sit down and write a new romance.

The antiquity of the relics and the antiquity of the people whose history he professed to give, led him to adopt the most ancient style of composition. So James' version of the Scriptures affords him the best antique style, and is adopted. He so frequently used the expressions, "It came to pass," "Now it came to pass," "Behold it came to pass," as to make the romance ridiculous. From his knowledge of history and of the classics he was enabled to introduce many odd names, such as Mormon, Moroni, Lamenite, Nephi, etc., etc. Mr. Spaulding conceived the idea that some golden plates had been discovered and that hieroglyphics of an ancient people were

written upon them. He, of course, found none. It was only a fancy, and in his novel he only pretended to translate the story of a people whose wanderings and sufferings had been written thereon.

After writing a while Mr. Spaulding altered the plot of his novel. The Jews whose history he pretended to narrate were first started from Rome. He stopped, began again and started them from Jerusalem. There were Levi, his four sons, some other persons etc., under divine direction, etc. Mr. Spaulding called his novel, the "Manuscript Found," that is a written history of a lost people in an earth mound. He said (laughingly), one day to Nathan Howard, a neighbor, that probably in a century from that time his account of the early inhabitants of America would be accepted as a true history. He little knew that he was laying the foundation of one of the greatest frauds of the centuries.

Mr. Spaulding often read his novel to the people, being a good-natured man and fond of company, when they came in to spend an hour or two, so that they became well acquainted with its contents and were struck with the odd names in it which they remembered well in after years as we shall see.

Mr. Spaulding decided to get his novel printed and he thought he could make money out of it. He had a friend in Pittsburg, named Patterson, who had a printing house. He moved to Pittsburg.

In Pittsburg, there was a young man by the name of Sidney Rigdon, born in St. Clair township, Pa., Feb. 1793. Sidney Rigdon lived on the farm with his father until the latter's death and for a while after with his mother in 1810, but he was too lazy to work. He got a fair education and in time went to Pittsburg to learn the tanner's trade. At this time his friend and chum, Lambden, was a printer in Patterson's office. Young Rigdon hung around the office so much that Mr. Engles, the foreman, complained of it. Mr. Spaulding's novel was in the printing office at this time and, Sydney Rigdon stole a copy of it. There were two copies of it besides the small copy which Mr. Spaulding wrote first when he started the Jews from Rome. The reason that

there were two copies of it was because the first was not quite polished enough and Mr. Patterson told Mr. Spaulding to re-write it and polish it up and some day he would make money out of it. So Mr. Spaulding wrote out another, a little better finished than the first. Rigdon stole one and the other Mr. Spaulding got back again, which was the copy borrowed and destroyed by the Mormons in 1833 or 1834.

Mr. Spaulding died in 1816, in Amity where he had moved and where he for a while kept a public house. He died from consumption.

Rigdon took the stolen novel, re-wrote it, put into it parts of the Bible which accounts for the religious portion of it. You will find in it Isa. 2, 14, 21, 48, 50, 52, 54; Mal. 3; Matt. 5, 6, 7; I Cor. 13, and many other portions from the Bible. For a time Rigdon was a Baptist preacher, then a Disciple preacher until in 1824, during a time of great religious excitement he conceived the idea of getting up a new religion, founded upon his stolen religious novel. For this purpose he revises Mr. Spaulding's novel and gets it all ready to be introduced to the world. How shall he introduce 't? In 1826 or 1827 he meets Joe Smith, Joe at once fell into line for he had himself heard of the Manuscript Found, having worked for Mrs. Spaulding's brother sometime in 1823 when he had a revelation.

Now, let us turn to Joe Smith for a little time. The impostor was born Dec. 23rd, 1805, Windsor Co., Vt. His father's name was Joe and his mother's name was Lucy. There were six boys and three girls in the family. When Joe was ten years old, his parents moved to Palmyra, N.Y. Now Joe Smith is one of The Latter Day Saints' chief witnesses to prove the divine origin of the Book of Mormon. We must, therefore, examine his character and see if God would give such a man a revelation, and appoint him chief prophet in his church; not only chief prophet but a chosen prophet to re-introduce into the world the true religion, and to re-establish the only true Church of God upon earth. The pretensions of Joe Smith and of his followers are very large. Are they warranted in making such pretensions?

The family of Smiths lived about

two miles or two and a-half miles out of the town of Palmyra, N.Y., and were the pest and torment of the neighborhood. They were everything and nothing by turns. The father of Joe, was a well-digger, a cooper, and he peddled root beer and ginger bread. The family made baskets and maple sugar, while the mother washed for a living part of the time. It was no disgrace to wash, but her customers were careful to take in the clothes in the evening after she washed them. Young Joe was an adept in robbing hen-roosts and orchards. Joe was with his father while the latter was digging a well for a Mr. Chase. A peculiar stone was found, white and about the size of a child's foot. The children of Mr. Chase played with this stone until one day Joe stole it from them. This stone became afterwards the celebrated Peek-stone that took the place of Joe's witch-hazel. With it Joe saw sights, traced hidden treasures, gold and silver and stolen property, and soon gathered around him a band of lazy fellows who slept in the day time and worked nights, digging for treasures. This Peek-stone was the Urim and Thummim, placed in his stove-pipe hat, with which he translated and read from the plates. Joe wandered about from place to place, was put in jail for vagrancy and debt. In 1823, Joe worked for W. H. Sabine. There he heard of the "Manuscript Found" and had a revelation, but as he could not get the manuscript he must wait. Three years of mystery follow. Joe heard all the theories about the ancient peopling of America, the traditions that were collected from Indians, also Hebrew traditions. The discovery of ruined cities and temples in Central America, of relics, pottery, bricks, etc., etc. So when Rigdon told Joe that he had a book explaining all these theories, Joe had the wit to understand that such a book published would pay and, that with its aid he could start a new religion.

Great revivals were going on at the time among the Methodists, Baptists and the Presbyterians. Joe's mother, three brothers and one sister joined the Presbyterians. Joe was excited, he did not know what to do. Suddenly an angel appeared and he was told that there was no true church on

earth. In a second visit the angel said that the truth would spring out of the earth and that he would be led to a hill near Palmyra where he would find it. In 1826 Joe, who had married Miss Hale greatly against her father's wishes, returned to Palmyra. Here in 1826 Rigdon visited him and spent three or four months with him in his little log cabin. The people thought a band of counterfeiters were at work. Angels now visit Joe often. At one time Joe was with the angel all night. On his way home he fell over a fence and was unconscious for a while, when he awoke an angel told him to go home and tell his father all that he saw. His father said it was a messenger from God and to follow him.

On September 22nd, 1827, amid thunderings and lightnings while Joe was praying an angel came out of the hill near Joe's home and gave him a box. Angels struggled with legions of devils that tried to keep the box back. Joe got it and was told that with Urim and Thummim he could read the language written upon the plates. The Urim and Thummim was nothing more than his Peek-stone and the box of plates was nothing but Solomon Spaulding's "Manuscript Found," which Rigdon had stolen and revamped for the occasion. It was taken to Joe's log cabin and here Joe with his Peek-stone in his white stovepipe hat sat behind a blanket in a corner of the room and pretended to translate.

Oliver Cowdery acted as scribe. While the translation was going on Smith and Cowdery went to the woods where John the Baptist appeared in a cloud, came to them and ordained both of them by the laying on of hands. They came back and pretended to go on with the translation. People called to see the plates but were only allowed to put their hands upon them in a pillow case. No one was allowed to see them except chosen witnesses. A plan was made to capture the plates, Joe was in debt, and a writ was gotten out to seize his goods for debt. Joe hid the plates in a bag of beans. If they had looked into the bag of beans they would have found not plates, but Mr. Spaulding's "Manuscript Found." After the interruption Joe and Cowdery went on with the translation and an angel pays them another visit.

We now come to Joe's first miracle. Newell Knight was besieged by devils; his limbs and visage being distorted by pain. Joe commanded the devils to leave him instantly, and Knight said, as they left, "I see them going through the roof." This was enough to establish Joe's fame among the ignorant. A farmer by the name of Martin Harris is convinced and joins Joe, greatly against his wife's wishes. When Martin Harris became scribe and took home 118 pages of the stolen manuscript, his wife burned it and the work of translation was delayed for ten months. They waited for a while with the hope that Mrs. Harris would relent and give them back the pages, for they did not know she burned them. When they found that she had burned them they proceeded to reproduce as best they could the destroyed pages and this was the cause of the ten months' delay. When finally the revelation was ready for printing Martin Harris sold his farm for \$3,000 to pay for the printing. His wife was so disgusted with this and with her fickle husband that she finally parted with him, refusing to join the Mormons and go out west with him. The Book of Mormon was printed in 1829-1830 in the printing office of Mr. Grandin, editor of the *Wayne Sentinel*, Hyrum (for so he spelled his name) Smith, Joe's brother carried the copy, under his coat carefully guarded, each day to the office. He carried just what the printer could set up each day and as soon as it was printed he brought back the copy of the manuscript.

Let us now briefly examine the Book of Mormon as to its historical contents. I have already given you the meaning of the name Mormon which is "bugbear," "hobgoblin," etc. It purports to be a history of America from the time of the Tower of Babel until about 400 A.D., nearly 4,000 years. It asserts that this continent was peopled by three different families.

1. The family of Jared who emigrated from the Tower of Babel over three thousand years before Christ and whose descendants were exterminated, one portion of the book declares six hundred years before Christ at another portion places the date two hundred and fifty years before Christ.

2. The family of Lehi, a Manassehite, who emigrated 600 years before

Christ, early in the reign of Zedekiah, King of Judah. His descendants divided into two nations, the Nephites, the righteous portion, and the Lamenites, the wicked portion.

3. The family of Zarahemla who were Judahites or Jews who left Jerusalem about eleven years after Lehi. The descendants of the Jews were destroyed in war or were absorbed by the Nephites. In a war the Nephites were exterminated by the Lamenites about 384 A.D. The Lamenites remained the sole possessors of the Continent of America and because of their sins became dark skinned. They are the American Indians according to this account.

Now we have the Book of Mormon and its historical portion is identical with the "Manuscript Found" written by Mr. Spaulding. The balance of the book, that is the religious portion, was stolen by Rigdon and Smith from the Bible as follows: One-eighteenth is stolen by chapters, one-twelfth is stolen by paragraphs, one-eighth is stolen by phrases and the whole of the religious ideas are stolen except some of Rigdon's sermons. We have now given you an account of the Book of Mormon. I shall now examine some of its absurdities and blunders, the witnesses to its authenticity and I shall produce many witnesses to prove that I am correct in all my statements.

First, let us notice the account of the plates pretended to be found. They tell us they were gold, pure gold, and that they looked like brass. Joe says they were fastened with three rings, David Whitmer says they were soldered together. Emma Smith says they were loose on her kitchen table, neither fastened nor soldered, covered with a cloth. Joe's mother says they were kept in a hollow tree, in a box, a cooper shop, in the woods, in a hole in the ground, in a vault, etc. Also, that Joe had them all the time; then he did not have them. Three saw them by a miracle; the eight saw them and hefted them without a miracle. Emma saw them under a cloth. Whitmer saw them in his father's field. The angel, Moroni, gave old Granny Whitmer a squint at them. If any one wanted to see them the angel had them, or it meant death to look at them. The Urim and Thummim were pointed diamonds set in

glass plates, that they were a pair of silver spectacles. Think of glass and specs at the time of Babel? Harris says they were two cloudy stones so large that a man could look through them with both eyes. Now, all this is a fable. They had no Urim and Thummim. Joe had the Peek-stone he stole from the children of Mr. Chase, and with which he pretended to trace stolen property and to find hidden treasures in the earth.

Notice the size of the plates. They were seven inches wide and eight inches long, and the thickness of common tin. Now the Book of Mormon contains 545 pages, in small type, which would require 2000 pages of written matter on foolscap. One side of a plate translated would occupy one large page of written matter on foolscap. This would require 1000 plates, which, if of gold, as they assert, would weigh 750 pounds, if of brass 250 pounds. These plates, of gold, would be worth \$75,000. Joe Smith carried all these plates, 750 pounds, a large sword, a heavy breast plate, a compass, hid away in his frock while he fought two men and ran two miles. Is this not a most absurd thing and impossible. Who can believe it?

Is it likely that God would choose such a man as Joe Smith to re-establish His church on earth? The Latter Day Saints take Joe Smith as their chief witness to establish the divine origin of the Book of Mormon. We must therefore examine his character and see if he is a competent witness. Were their claims not so large, and were it not for the fact that he is called as their chief witness we should not take the trouble to inquire into his life. As a private individual it matters not so much, but as the chief witness to the divine origin of the Book of Mormon, it is of great moment. You will understand something of his character by reading an account of the proceedings of the Court held in the town of Bainbridge, Chenango Co., N. Y., "People of the State of New York vs. Joseph Smith. Warrant issued upon oath of Peter G. Bridgman, who informed that one Joseph Smith of Bainbridge, was a disorderly person and an impostor. Prisoner brought into court March 20th, 1826. Arad Stowell sworn—Says that he went to see whether prisoner could convince him that he

possessed the skill that he professed to have, upon which prisoner laid a book open upon a white cloth, and proposed looking through a stone which was white and transparent; hold the stone to the candle, turn his back to the book, and read. The deception appeared so palpable, that I went off disgusted.

McMaster, sworn—Says he went with Arad Stowell to be convinced of prisoner's skill, and likewise came away disgusted, finding the deception so palpable.

And thereupon the court finds the defendant (Joe Smith) guilty."

In the spring of 1837, Joe Smith started what was called the "Wild Cat" bank in Kirtland. Joe got the money of hundreds of the poor dupes and for a while he lived like a prince, but in November of the same year the Wild Cat bank broke and Joe Smith and Rigdon were fined \$1000 each for swindling the people out of their money.

N. C. Lewis, of the M. E. church, of Susquehanna Co., Penn., in 1834, made a sworn statement to the effect that he had been acquainted with Joseph Smith, jr., for some time; being a relative of his wife's, and residing near him, had frequent opportunities of conversation with him. He is not a man of veracity, and his general character in this part of the country is that of an impostor, hypocrite and liar.

Eleven male residents of Manchester, Ontario Co., N. Y., Nov. 3rd and 4th, 1833, made an affidavit that the family of Joseph Smith, with whom the Gold Bible originated, are a lazy, indolent, intemperate set, and their word is not to be depended on.

In the same year, on the same day, in the same vicinity, fifty-one other men of standing state: We, the undersigned, have been acquainted with the Smith family for a number of years, while they resided near this place, and have no hesitation in saying that we consider them destitute of that moral character which ought to entitle them to the confidence of any community. Joseph Smith, sr., and his son, Joseph, in particular, were considered entirely destitute of moral character, and addicted to vicious habits. Here we have sixty-three of the best and most competent wit-

nesses, under oath, stating that Joe Smith was an impostor, a hypocrite, a liar, not to be depended upon, destitute of moral character and addicted to vicious habits.

Again, Joe Smith was the author of a revelation on the patriarchal order of marriage, or plurality of wives, given, he claims, in Nauvoo, July 11th, 1843. In this revelation Joe Smith teaches polygamy, as plainly as it can be taught. There is no mistake, the language is unmistakable and the document called Celestial Marriage is by Joe Smith. He was not only the author of that foul blot on the name of Christianity, but he was in practice a polygamist, as the following affidavit will abundantly prove.

SAN BERNARDINO, California

Dec. 31, 1883.

Mrs. Mary Ralph, being duly sworn, deposes and says: I lived in Nauvoo, Ill., close to the house of Jos. Smith, just across the road, some time. I also was present at a public meeting, and heard the Prophet Joseph Smith say while preaching. Here is Bro. Brigham; if ever he leads this church, he will lead it to hell; and I believed he was a true prophet of God. I was well acquainted with the two Partridge girls and the two Walker girls, and their two brothers, William and Lorin Walker, they were orphans, and lived in the family of Joseph Smith, but I never knew they were any of them his wives; but I saw Susie Walker in 1847, and she had a young baby in her arms; she told me she had been sealed to Joseph for eternity and to Heber C. Kimball for time, and Bro. Heber was acting as proxy for Bro. Joseph. Dianthy Farr, daughter of Aaron Farr, told me she was sealed in the same way, and Wm. Clayton was acting as proxy for Bro. Joseph with her. The first I ever heard of the proxy and sealing business was in 1846. Bathsheba Smith, wife of George A., told me of it then.

MARY RALPH.

"Sworn to before me, this 31st day of December, 1883. W. J. Curtis, Notary Public in and for San Bernardino Co., California."

I thus impeach Joe Smith as a witness. His character is bad. Yet he is the chief witness that Latter Day

Saints produce to prove that the Book of Mormon is of equal authority with the Bible.

Now, let us turn to the three witnesses, Martin Harris, Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer. Next to Joe, these are the principal witnesses relied upon to prove the divine origin of the Book of Mormon. Let us examine them.

If the book of Doctrine and Covenants be true, then before these witnesses even pretended to see these plates, Joe Smith, in a pretended revelation, presented the plates with the revelation telling them first what to say. In March 1829, Joe Smith gave Harris a pretended revelation in which the identical words of the testimony of the witnesses occurs. In that revelation Harris is told to say that he had seen the plates when he had not. The statement of the three witnesses to the Book of Mormon is a joint statement, without date. It has every mark of fraud and collusion. The witnesses are not independent but interested witnesses. Harris sold his farm to get the book printed, and expected to make money out of the book, Cowdery had spent much time on the book. The witnesses are all interested parties. We will now examine the character of the witnesses. Oliver Cowdery comes first. David Stafford testifies that "Cowdery proved himself to be a worthless fellow, not to be trusted or believed when he taught school in the neighborhood." Banford Booth says: "He was a low pettifogger, a cats-paw of the Smith's to do their dirty work. Joe Smith could not trust him himself. In a pretended revelation Joe says in Nov. 1831: 'Hearken unto me saith the Lord your God for my servant Oliver Cowdery's sake. It is not wisdom that he be entrusted with the moneys which he shall carry into the land of Zion unless some one shall go with him who shall be true and faithful.' Hiram Smith charges Cowdery with robbing his father, plundering his own house and forging a note against himself. He says, 'Persons came to my house while I was in prison, and ransacked it and carried away money and my valuables. Among those who treated me thus I cannot help making particular mention of Lyman Cowdery, who, in connection with his

brother, Oliver Cowdery, took from me a great many things, and to cap the climax of his iniquity, compelled my aged father, by threatening to bring a mob upon him, to deed over to him or his brother, Oliver, about 160 acres of land, to pay a note which he said I had given to Oliver for \$165. Such note I confess I was and am entirely ignorant of, and after mature consideration, I have to say that I believe it to be a forgery." (Times and Seasons, vol. 1, pp. 22-3.) Joe Smith says Cowdery was cut off from the church for slander and false statements. His words are: "About this time there were several persons living in the far west who were cut off from the church. These characters were studiously engaged in circulating false and slanderous reports against the Saints to stir up our enemies to drive us from our homes and enjoy the spoils. They are as follows: Oliver Cowdery, David Whitmer, etc. (Times and Season, vol. 1, p. 86.)

In a circular letter addressed to Cowdery, David Whitmer and others, signed by Sidney Rigdon and 84 other leading Mormons. A circular that was authenticated in a report of a committee of the United States Senate and published in the report by authority of the U. S. Government, constituting Congressional Document 180, A. D. 1841, Oliver Cowdery is charged with stealing, lying, perjury, counterfeiting and that he was leader of a gang of scoundrels of the blackest dye. He abandoned Mormonism and openly declared his testimony to the Book of Mormon, a lie. He died an apostate, a drunken sot and beastly wreck. Now you have the character of O. Cowdery. Is he a competent witness that the Book of Mormon is of divine origin? I think not.

Now, let us examine David Whitmer's character. Whitmer is included in the Cong. Document 180, A. D., 1841 against Cowdery, which charged Whitmer with being a member of a gang of thieves, counterfeiters and blacklegs of the deepest dye, and I have already showed you that Joe Smith (in Times and Seasons, vol. 1, p. 86), says that Whitmer was one who slandered the Saints and made false statements and was at one time plotting to rob the Saints.

In Times and Seasons, p. 83, Joe Smith says: Poor Phelps, has no other dumb beast to ride but David Whitmer, or to forbid his madness when he goes to curse Israel. But this ass (not being of the same kind as Balaam's), therefore notwithstanding the angel appeared unto him. * * * Yet he brays out cursings instead of blessings. Poor ass, who lives to see him will see him and his rider perish like those who perished in the gainsaying of Noah? Whitmer frequently declared in Richmond, Mo., that his testimony to the Book of Mormon was a lie. To show you how easily David Whitmer was duped. A wooden image was by Smith placed in a tree in a field. Whitmer's son saw it and said he saw an angel. Then said Smith, "This is the place, where the Book of Mormon must be completed since the angel has appeared eleven times and it is revealed to me that the place of his twelfth appearing is where the book must be completed. Hence Whitmer's, in West Fayette, became the resort of Smith and his fellow impostors during the progress of the work. David Whitmer tells how he was convinced of the truth of Mormonism. He went into the woods after some maple sap, and having filled two large pails he set out to return home. The sap became so heavy he stopped, knelt and prayed that if Joe Smith was a true prophet and the plates a genuine revelation from God that the sap might be made lighter as a token thereof. He arose took up the sap and as it felt lighter than when he set it down he was convinced of the truth of Mormonism. He was duped to believe also that an angel plowed seven acres of land for him in the night, and that an angel sowed eleven acres of plaster for him to enable him to go to Penn. to move Joe. (See Lucy Smith's Hist. pp. 144-5.) This is a chief witness to the divine origin of the Book of Mormon. Who can have any confidence in such a witness?

We now turn to Martin Harris. He was a man easily excited, and he told many wonderful stories. He said that the U. S. would be destroyed if they did not accept Mormonism in four years. Harris says he saw the devil, and that he was a jackass with hair like a mouse. Harris repeatedly declared that he had as much evidence

for a Shaker book which he had as for the Book of Mormon. He told Morley, Mai. Gilbert, Mr. Markell, Mrs. Millikin, Mr. Hansbury, and many others, that he did not see the plates with his natural sight. He only saw them by faith. He told Mrs. Hansbury that he only saw the box they were in, and heard them rattle. Joe denounces him, (*Elder's Journal*, p. 49, Aug. 1838,) as so far beneath contempt that a notice of him would be too great a sacrifice for a gentleman to make. The church exerted some kind of restraint on him, but now he has given loose to all kinds of abominations, lying, cheating, swindling, all kinds of debauchery. Harris, as a witness, interested in the book financially, and who said to his wife, "If the whole affair is a fraud I expect to make money out of it," cannot be accepted.

The eight witnesses say they saw the plates, that on them were characters of curious workmanship. How did they know that Joe had translated those plates? How did they know that an angel gave them to Joe? How did they know that the Book of Mormon was a translation of the plates? They could know that they saw plates but they could not know anything more. The witnesses are all a gang of Joe Smith's followers. Of the eight witnesses there are four of the Whitmers, three Smiths and Hy. Page, a brother-in-law of the Whitmers. So that of the twelve witnesses we have: Joe the author of the fraud; his father, a drunkard and a liar; Hiram Smith, Joe's brother, and for a while leader of Mormonism; S. H. Smith, another brother; David Whitmer, C. Whitmer, Jacob Whitmer, Peter Whitmer and John Whitmer, five in all and a brother-in-law of the Whitmers, Henry Page, O. Cowdery and Mr. Harris, a low gang of villainous followers of Joe Smith. These are the witnesses that Latter Day Saints introduce to prove the divine origin of the Book of Mormon, whose names appear in the book as witnesses. I submit that if such a crowd of witnesses stepped upon the stand to-day they would be rejected by any Court of Justice in Canada or the United States. Of the three witnesses, all apostatized, of the eight, five apostatized. This is sufficient to prove that their testimony was a base

fabrication, that they abandoned it when it ceased to be profitable to them.

To prove that Solomon Spaulding wrote the historical part of the Book of Mormon, and that it is identical with the "manuscript found," I shall produce several of the most respectable and competent witnesses who lived beside Mr. Spaulding, and who heard him read his novel and who well remember the names in it, and who state emphatically that the Spaulding novel and the Book of Mormon are identical with the exception of the chapters stolen from the Bible and put into it and Rigdon's own additions.

Our first witness is MR. AARON WRIGHT. He testifies:

"One day when I was at the house of Solomon Spaulding, he showed and read to me a history he was writing of the Lost Tribes of Israel, purporting that they were the first settlers of America, and that Indians were their descendants. He traced their journey from Jerusalem to America. He told me his object was to account for the fortifications, etc., that were to be found in this country, and said that in time it would be fully believed by all except by learned men and historians."

OLIVER SMITH testifies:

"Solomon Spaulding boarded at my house six months. All his leisure hours were occupied in writing a historical novel founded upon the first settlers of this country. He said he intended to trace their journey from Jerusalem by land and sea till their arrival in America, and give an account of their arts, sciences, civilization, laws and contentions. In this way he would give a satisfactory account of all the old mounds, so common in this country. Nephi and Lehi were by him represented as the leading characters, when they first started for America. Their main object was to escape the judgments which they supposed were coming upon the old world."

NAHUM HOWARD testifies:

"In conversation with Solomon Spaulding I expressed my surprise that we had no account of the people once in this country, who erected the old fort, mounds etc. He told me he was writing a history of that people."

ARTEMUS CUNNINGHAM testifies :

"Solomon Spaulding described to me his book. He said that it was a fabulous or romantic history of the first inhabitants of this country, and it purported to be a record found buried in the earth, or in a cave. He had adopted the ancient or Scriptural style of writing. He then read from his manuscript. I remember the name of Nephi, who appeared to be the principal hero of the story. The frequent repetition of the phrase "I Nephi," I remember distinctly as though it were yesterday. He attempted to account for the numerous antiquities which are found upon the continent."

JOHN N. MILLER who was a member of Solomon Spaulding's household for many months, testifies:

"I perused Spaulding's manuscripts, as I had leisure, more particularly the one he called his "Manuscript Found" It purported to be a history of the first settlers of America. He brought them off from Jerusalem, under their leaders, detailing their travels by land and by sea."

We now introduce a most important witness, **MRS. SPAULDING**, wife of Solomon Spaulding. She says:

"Mr. Spaulding conceived the idea of writing a history of the long lost race that produced these antiquities. Their extreme age or antiquity lead him to write in the most ancient style, and as the Old Testament was the oldest book in the world, he imitated its style as much as possible. As he progressed in his narrative the neighbors would come in from time to time to hear portions read, and a great interest in the work was excited among them. It claimed to have been written by one of the lost nation, and to have been recovered from the earth. The neighbors would often ask how Mr. Spaulding progressed in deciphering the manuscript, and when he had a sufficient portion prepared he would inform them and they would assemble to hear it read. He was enabled from his acquaintance with the classics and ancient history, to introduce many singular names, which were particularly noticed by the people, and could easily be recognized by them."

RUDDICK MCKEE, of Washington, D.C., testifies:

"I was a boarder at Spaulding's tavern in Amity, Pa., in the fall of 1814. I re-

collect quite well Mr. Spaulding spending much time in writing on the sheets of paper torn from an old book what purported to be a veritable history of the nations or tribes that inhabited Canaan. He called it "Lost Manuscript," or some such name. I was struck with the minuteness of its details. I have an indistinct recollection of the passage referred to by Mr. Miller, about the Amlicites making a cross with red paint on their foreheads to distinguish them from their enemies in the confusion of battle."

MR. ABNER JACKSON, of Canton, Ohio, who heard Spaulding read the romance to his father in Conneaut, just before his removal to Pittsburg, testifies:

"Spaulding frequently read his manuscript to the neighbors and commented on it as he progressed. He wrote it in Bible style, "And it came to pass," occurred so often that some called him "Old come to pass." The names Mormon, Moroni, Nephi, Nephite, Lamen, Lamenite, etc., were in it. The closing scene was at Cumorah, where all the righteous were slain."

HIRAM LAKE, of Conneaut, Ohio, testified, Dec. 23rd, 1880, as follows:

"I am sixty-nine years of age and have lived all my life at Conneaut, my father was partner with Sol. Spaulding in 1811 and 1812. About 1834 when I was twenty-three years of age, I remember there was great excitement in Conneaut concerning Mormonism. My father read the Book of Mormon and was familiar with its contents and he told me it was unquestionably derived from a manuscript written by Solomon Spaulding called "Manuscript Found." My father made an affidavit to the same effect. Since 1834 I have conversed with Aaron Wright, J. N. Miller, Nathan Howard, old residents here now dead, all of whom lived here in 1811, 1812 and who had heard Spaulding's manuscript read, and they told me that the Book of Mormon was derived from Spaulding's "Manuscript Found." They made affidavits to the same effect."

LORIN GOULD, of Conneaut, Ohio, Dec. 23rd, 1880, testifies:

"I have lived at Conneaut, Ohio, sixty-six years. During all that period I have known Hiram Lake, whose statement dated Dec. 23rd, 1880, I have read. This

statement I believe to be true. I was acquainted with Henry Lake, Aaron Wright, John N. Miller, N Howard and the persons named in Hiram Lake's statement, and about 1834-35, the time of the excitement concerning Mormonism. I heard them all say that the Book of Mormon was undoubtedly taken from a manuscript written by Solomon Spaulding, which they had heard Spaulding read in 1811 or 1812, called "Manuscript Found," or "The Lost Tribes."

HENRY LAKE, Mr. Spaulding's business partner, testifies:

"Solomon Spaulding frequently read to me from a manuscript which he was writing and which he entitled the 'Manuscript Found.' I spent many hours in hearing him read said writings, and became well acquainted with its contents. He wished me to assist him in getting it printed, as a book of that kind would meet with a ready sale. This manuscript represented American Indians as the lost tribes, gave an account of their leaving Jerusalem, their contentions and work which were many and great. One time, when he was reading to me the tragic account of Laban, I pointed out to him what I considered an inconsistency, which he promised to correct; but by referring to the Book of Mormon, I find to my great surprise, it stands there just as he read it to me then. Some months ago I borrowed a Golden Bible, put it in my pocket and carried it home, and thought no more about it. About a week after my wife found the book in my pocket as my coat hung up, and commenced reading it aloud to me as I lay on the bed. She had not read twenty minutes before I was astonished to find the same passages in it that Spaulding had read to me more than twenty years before from his 'Manuscript Found.' Since that I have more fully examined the said Golden Bible, (Book of Mormon), and have no hesitation in saying that the historical part of it is principally, if not wholly taken from the 'Manuscript Found.' I well recollect telling Mr Spaulding that so frequent use of the words 'and it came to pass,' 'Now it came to pass;' rendered it ridiculous. Spaulding left here in 1812, and I furnished him with the means to carry him to Pittsburg, where he said he would get the book printed and pay me. But I never heard any more from him or his writings, till I saw them in the Book of Mormon."

JOHN SPAULDING brother of Solomon Spaulding testifies:

"The 'Manuscript Found' was an historical romance of the first settlers of America, endeavoring to show that the American Indians are descended from the Jews, or lost tribes. It gave a detailed account of their journey from Jerusalem by land and sea till they arrived in America, under the command of Nephi and Lehi. They afterwards had contentions and quarrels, and separated into two distinct nations, the Nephites and the Lamanites. Cruel and bloody wars ensued, in which multitudes were slain. They buried their dead in great heaps, which caused the mounds so common in this country. Their arts, sciences and civilization were brought into view, in order to account for all the curious antiquities found in various parts of North and South America. I have recently read the Book of Mormon and to my great surprise I find nearly the same historical matter, names etc., as they were in my brother's writings. I well remember that he wrote in the old style, and commenced about every sentence with 'And it came to pass,' or 'Now it came to pass,' the same as in the Book of Mormon, and according to the best of my recollection and belief, it is the same as my brother Solomon wrote, with the exception of the religious matter."

MRS. ANN TREDWELL, of Syracuse, made a statement in June 17, 1880, as follows:

"In the year 1818 I was principal of Onondaga Valley Academy, and resided in the house of W. H. Sabine, brother-in-law of Solomon Spaulding. I remember Mrs. Spaulding, and of hearing her and the family talk of the manuscript in her possession, which her husband, Rev. S. Spaulding, had written somewhere in the west. Its substance was so often mentioned, and the peculiarity of the story, that years afterward, when the Mormon Bible was published, I procured a copy, and at once recognized the resemblance between it and Mrs Spaulding's account of the 'Manuscript Found.'"

MR. JOSEPH MILLER, of Ten Mile, Pa., testifies:

"I was intimately acquainted with Solomon Spaulding, and often heard him read what he called the 'Manuscript Found.' It was a fictitious novel of the

people that built the mounds. I had the Book of Mormon in my house for about six months for the purpose of comparing it with my recollections of the 'Lost Manuscript Found,' and I unhesitatingly say that a great part of the historical part of it, the Book of Mormon is identical with the manuscript, and I fully believe that the manuscript is the foundation of the whole concern."

Mrs. McKINSTRY's statement regarding the "Manuscript Found," Washington, D. C., April 3rd, 1880. Mrs. McKinstry is the child or daughter of Solomon Spaulding. She testifies:

"My father read the manuscript I had seen him writing to the neighbors and to a clergyman, a friend of his who came to visit him. Some of the names he mentioned while reading to the people I have never forgotten. They are as fresh in my memory as though I had heard them but yesterday. They are Mormon, Moroni, Lamanite and Nephi, etc."

Mrs. JOHN SPAULDING, testifies:

"I was in the house of Solomon Spaulding shortly before he left Conneaut. He was then writing a historical novel founded on the first settlers of America. He represented them as an enlightened and warlike people. He had for many years contended that the aborigines of America were the descendants of some of the lost tribes of Israel; and this idea he carried out in the book in question. The lapse of time prevents my recollecting but few of the leading incidents of his writings, but the names Lehi and Nephi are yet fresh in my memory as being the principal heroes of his tale. They were officers of the company which first came off from Jerusalem. He gave a particular account of their journey by land and by sea till they arrived in America, after which disputes arose between the Chiefs, which caused them to separate into bands, one of which was called Lamanites and the other Nephites. Between these there were recounted tremendous battles, which frequently covered the ground with the slain, and these being buried in large heaps were the cause of many of the mounds in the country."

Now can an average Mormon give a better outline of the historical part of the Nephite portion of the Book of Mormon than we have here? I have

taken great pains to give you the testimony of many witnesses, witnesses of the greatest respectability and of the best standing in the United States so that you may know beyond a shadow of a doubt, that the Book of Mormon is simply a reproduction of Solomon Spaulding's historical novel.

We shall now turn for a few minutes to Sidney Rigdon, who stole the Manuscript Found from Patterson's printing office in Pittsburg, who met Joe Smith and who was so instrumental in imposing the great fraud upon the unthinking, the simple and ignorant. It is denied by Latter Day Saints that he was in Pittsburg before '22 and that he visited Joe Smith in 1827. Let us examine these questions. There is the clearest and best testimony that he did visit Joe Smith in 1827 and that he was in Pittsburg before 1822. Mrs. Eichbaum who was clerk in the post office in Pittsburg, from 1812 to 1816, gives us the testimony that a young man by the name of Lambdin was in Mr. Patterson's office and became his partner in 1818. She states that Rigdon and Lambdin were very intimate and that Mr. Engel, foreman of Patterson's printing office, complained that Rigdon was loafing around the office all the time; Rigdon was working in a tannery at the time. He being around Patterson's office so much that the people thought he was working there. He was not working but loafing there.

REV. JOHN WINTER, M. D., who was a member of Rigdon's congregation and intimate with him, testifies:

"That Rigdon in his presence, in his house took out of a desk a manuscript, and remarked that a Presbyterian minister, Spaulding, whose health had failed brought this to a printer to see if it would pay to publish it. It is a romance of the Bible—and he got it from the printer to read as a curiosity." Here we have clear proof that Rigdon had Spaulding's manuscript in his possession in 1823. In the winter of 1826, Rigdon moved to Bainbridge, Ohio. Soon after he was visited by his niece, now Mrs. Dunlop, of Warren, Ohio. She testifies: "That her uncle, in her presence, went into his bedroom and took from a trunk, which he kept carefully locked, a manuscript and came back, seated himself by the fire and began to read. His wife came into the room and exclaimed: 'What! you are

studying that thing again.' 'I mean to burn that paper,' Rigdon replied, 'No indeed, you will not. This will be a great thing some day.' Rigdon had the manuscript and he expected to make a great thing out of it.

"Rigdon knew of the Book of Mormon and described its contents before it appeared. A. Bently, brother-in-law of Rigdon, and one of the most reliable men in Ohio at the time, declares in the *Millennial Harbinger* of 1844, page 39: "I know that Sidney Rigdon told me as much as two years before the Mormon book made its appearance, or had been heard of by me, that there was a book coming out, the manuscript of which was engraved on gold plates."

ALEXANDER CAMPBELL testifies to the same thing and says that Rigdon said :

"That on the plates dug up in New York, there was an account of not only the aborigines of this continent, but it was stated also that the Christian Religion had been preached on this continent during the first century, just as they were then preaching it on the Western Reserve."

DAVID ATWATER testifies :

"Rigdon said before 1826 that there was a book to be published containing an account of the aborigines of America."

Mrs. Garfield's father testifies (Z. Rudolph was the father-in-law of President Garfield.) He testifies :

"During the winter previous to the appearance of the Book of Mormon, Rigdon was in the habit of spending weeks away from home no one knew of it. He often appeared pre-occupied and he would indulge in dreamy visionary talks which puzzled those who heard him. When the Book of Mormon appeared Rigdon at once joined in the advocacy of the new religion, and the suspicion was aroused that he was one of the framers of the new doctrines."

That Rigdon came into contact with Joe Smith in 1827-8-9.

POMEROY TUCKER, who lived near Smith, says :

"A mysterious stranger now appears at Smith's and holds intercourse with the famed money digger." (1827.)

MRS. EATON, wife of Horace Eaton, D. D., and for thirty-two years resident of Palmyra, says :

"Early in the summer of 1827, a mysterious stranger seeks admission to Joe Smith's cabin. The conferences of the two are most private. This person whose coming immediately preceded a new departure in the faith was Sidney Rigdon, a backsliden clergyman, then a Campbellite preacher in Mentor, Ohio."

J. H. MCCAULEY, in his history of Franklin Co. Pa., states :

"As a matter too well known to need argument, that Joseph Smith, the founder of Mormonism, and Sidney Rigdon were acquainted for a considerable time before Mormonism was first heard of."

ABEL SMITH, a near neighbor of Smith, says :

"I saw Rigdon at Smith's at different times; with considerable intervals between them."

LORENZO SAUNDERS, another near neighbor, says :

"I saw Rigdon at Smith's several times and the first visit was more than two years before the first Book of Mormon appeared."

This testimony disproves the statements of Latter Day Saints that Rigdon was not in Pittsburg at the time the manuscript was there, and that he was not at Smith's until after the Book of Mormon was published, and that he never saw Smith until converted to Mormonism.

I will now review the whole question as briefly as possible. I have shown that Solomon Spaulding wrote a novel called the "Manuscript Found," That Sidney Rigdon stole the MS. and introduced portions of Scripture into it from the Bible. That Joe Smith and Rigdon met. Smith gets a box of plates and a revelation and pretends to translate. He got the stolen manuscript from Rigdon and with it, sitting behind a blanket with his eyes peering into his white stove-pipe hat, with a little stone that he stole from the children of Mr. Chase, that is known as the Peekstone, he simply pretended to translate.

Latter Day Saints attempt to prove that the Book of Mormon is of equal

authority with the Bible and is of divine origin. I have proved that it had a base human origin and was fabricated as a fraud to deceive.

By seventeen of the most competent witness I have proved that Solomon Spaulding wrote and was the author of the historical portion of the Book of Mormon. I will now show you that in more than twenty features the Spaulding novel and the Book of Mormon correspond. The plot of the novel was the same as that of the Book of Mormon. It attempts to account for the antiquities of America, so does the Book of Mormon. The novel assumed that the Israelites were the ancestors of the North American Indians, so does the Book of Mormon. It said the Israelites left Jerusalem, so does the Book of Mormon. It said they left to escape divine punishment, so says the Book of Mormon. They journeyed through and from Southern Asia by land and sea, so says the Book of Mormon. The leaders in Spaulding's novel were named Nephi and Lehi, so they are in the Book of Mormon. One Laban was murdered to obtain records. They quarreled and divided into two nations called Nephites and Lamanites, so they did in the Book of Mormon. They had terrible wars. They buried their dead in great heaps after the battles that caused the great earth mounds, this corresponds with the Book of Mormon. In two instances the end of these wars was the total annihilation of all but one, who escaped to make a record of the final catastrophe, so says the Book of Mormon. These sole survivors finished the record of the people and buried it, so says the Book of Mormon. The Spaulding MS. gave an historical account of the civilization, laws, customs and sciences of those ancient people, this the Book of Mormon professes to do. One party of these people were the ancestors of the North American Indians. This is what the Book of Mormon says. The names Nephi, Lehi, Laban, Laman, Nephite, Lamanite, Mormon, Moroni, Amlicite, etc., were in Spaulding's novel, so they are in the Book of Mormon. The use and characteristics of these names in the novel were precisely the same in the Book of Mormon. The novel was written in Bible style, so is the Book of Mormon.

"Now it came to pass," etc., appeared so frequently in Spaulding's novel that it made it ridiculous, so those phrases make the Book of Mormon ridiculous. The original from which the manuscript was translated was taken from the earth (that is, Solomon Spaulding pretended to do so, but he really did not), so are the pretensions of the Book of Mormon.

In the Spaulding novel one party of emigrants landed near the Isthmus of Panama and immigrated in a northerly direction, so says the Book of Mormon. The land near the Isthmus was called Zarahemla, so it is called in the Book of Mormon. In a battle between the Amlicites and Lamanites one party marked their forehead with a red cross to distinguish them from their enemies. So we find it in the Book of Mormon. The destruction of the nations exterminated took place near a hill called Cumorah, so the Book of Mormon has it. The Spaulding manuscript could have been used as a fraud to deceive people, an imitation, a pretended revelation. The Book of Mormon has been so used.

We examined the Latter Day Saints twelve witnesses, Joe Smith, a robber of hen roosts, in jail for getting money under false pretences with his Peekstone, fined a \$1,000 for defrauding the people at Kirtland through his Wild Cat bank, the author of Celestial Marriage, a polygamist. By sixty-five witnesses we proved that he was a thief, liar and a hypocrite and entirely unworthy of confidence. We proved that the next three witnesses to the divine origin of the Book of Mormon, Martin Harris, Oliver Cowdery and David Whitmer, were liars, forgers and counterfeiters. That the remaining eight witnesses: Celestial Whitmer, Hiram Page, Jacob Whitmer, Joe Smith, sr., Peter Whitmer, Hyrum Smith, John Whitmer, Sam Smith, were incompetent and not to be relied upon.

We drew your attention to the contradictory and absurd statements as to the plates, Joe Smith gave Martin Harris a scrawl that he said was a facsimile of some of the writing on the plates. Harris took it to Prof. Anthon, of New York City. Prof. Anthon describes it: "It was indeed a singular scrawl. It consisted of all kinds of crooked characters, disposed

in columns, and had evidently been prepared by some person who had before him at the time, a book containing various alphabets, Greek and Hebrew letters crosses and flourishes. Roman letters inverted or placed sideways, were arranged in perpendicular columns, and the whole ended in a rude delineation of a circle divided in various compartments, decked with various strange marks, evidently copied after the Mexican calendar given by Humbolt."

"This is Prof. Anthon's description of the scrawl.

There used to be a scrawl at Kirtland and Nauvoo. It is now in Utah. It is a fac-simile of a couple of lines or columns of the writings on the plates. There are 68 characters and 64 of them are our alphabets or numerals and marks of punctuation placed in unusual positions. The whole thing too transparent a fraud to deceive any but the ignorant. I pointed out some of the blunders of the book but my time being limited not one in five hundred that may be found in it.

The historical part of the Book of Mormon is taken from Mr. Spaulding's novel. This is so certain that the futile efforts of Mormons to cover their tracks by getting out a cheap edition of a little pamphlet purporting to be the Spaulding manuscript is apparent. The Latter Day Saints have a cheap printed edition, a so-called Spaulding Manuscript, which they carry around with them and when in danger of exposure they produce it and say "We have the Spaulding Manuscript in Oberlin College library, brought back from Honolulu in 1884 by President Fairchild and there is no connection between it and the Book of Mormon." Certainly not and no one ever said there was. Mr. Spaulding wrote several manuscripts and it may be one of them, but it is not Mr. Spaulding's "Manuscript Found" which forms the basis of the historical part of the Book of Mormon as I have proved beyond a doubt by unimpeachable witnesses. The religious portion of the Book of Mormon was stolen by Rigdon and Smith from the Bible. You will find Isa. 11, 14, 21, 48, 50, 52, 54; Mal. 3; Matt. 5, 6, 7; 1 Cor. 13, and many other chapters taken out of the Bible. One-eighteenth of it is taken by chapters, one-twelfth by

paragraphs, one eighth by phrases and all the ideas except Rigdon's additions.

I explained to you the meaning of the word Mormon. Mormon is simply the Greek word anglicized. It is defined to mean bugbear, hobgoblin, a hideous she-monster used by nurses to frighten children with.

Building Upon a False Foundation.

The Book of Mormon, which we have proved to be a fraud, was palmed off by Joe Smith as a revelation from God. Incredible as it may seem, yet upon it Joe Smith and his successors succeeded in building up an organization that became a menace to the welfare of the people in every state where they settled. In Ohio, they grew prosperous until an outraged and plundered people drove them out. They fled to Missouri, increased in numbers and became strong, but when they attempted to defy the law, and pillage and rob their neighbors, they were again driven out. They trekked to Illinois only to repeat the experiences of Ohio and Missouri, and were again driven out. They then journeyed to Utah, where they multiplied, grew strong, usurped civil authority, defied the United States government until stern measures were adopted both civil and military, to put down their wretched system of polygamy that had grown to huge proportions. Their polygamous system is now under the ban of the law, but secretly, many of them are believed to still practice it.

At first, the followers of Joe Smith were called Mormons, and they are still known by that name because their organization is founded upon the Book of Mormon. But they call themselves Latter Day Saints. When they go out as missionaries they do not publish their peculiar doctrines. If they did they would make no converts. They wait until their converts are caught like flies in the web of a spider before unfolding their real teachings. When they come into a community they wear black frock coats and white ties, and palm themselves off as real ministers of the

gospel. They use the authorized version of the Bible, but they do not tell the people that they have a garbled version of the Bible made by Joe Smith to bolster up their views. They do not at first tell the people that the Book of Mormon is as good as the Bible and that their prophets can make Scriptures as good as the Bible, and that these pretended revelations are worth more to them than all the Bibles put together. They do all this after they have got their converts fast. They publish what they call their articles of faith, which are similar to those of all the other churches. They proceed to preach FAITH, REPENTANCE, BAPTISM by immersion for the remission of sins, the Laying on of Hands for the gift of the Holy Ghost. This all sounds very well and people say "How Scriptural!" They conceal their teaching that Adam is God, a great big man like ourselves only larger, that he is a polygamist and Eve is only one of his many wives. They conceal their teachings that in proportion as men have many wives on earth will they be promoted to the position of gods in heaven and will rule over kingdoms and will continue to beget children forever. They conceal their teaching that Jesus had several wives and that Mary and Martha were married to him and he was thus a polygamist. They, at first, are careful not to tell the people that all will be damned who do not become Latter Day Saints. They wait until their converts are thoroughly entrapped before they pronounce damnation upon all Christian believers. Incredible as it may seem, all the foregoing statements as to the real teachings of Latter Day Saints can be proved beyond a doubt by consulting "Compendium of Doctrine," "Journal of Discourses," "Doctrine and Covenants," "Pratts' Key to Theology," "Mormon Catechism, etc., etc.

To sum up :—

1. The government of the Latter Day Saints is a **BOGUS** theocracy by which their priesthood attempt to exercise civil as well as religious authority under the immediate direction of God. They claim that all other government is illegal and unauthorized, that any people attempting to govern themselves by laws of their own making are in direct rebellion against the

Kingdom of God. Wherever they become strong enough they attempt to override the civil laws of the land. It was for this that they were driven out of Ohio, Missouri and Illinois by an outraged people whom they attempted to plunder.

2. The Christianity of Latter Day Saints is a **BOGUS** Christianity. They appropriate Christian phraseology and New Testament names and yet they distort and pervert almost every doctrine of Christianity and rob it of all that is best in it.

3. The name Latter Day Saints adopt is a **BOGUS** name. They call themselves Saints and yet they lack almost every characteristic of real Saints. They call themselves "The Church of Jesus Christ," a name that belongs only to those who are loyal to Jesus Christ and to the Bible as the only revealed will of God.

4. The Bible of Latter Day Saints is a **BOGUS** Bible, the Book of Mormon which they put on a level with the inspired word of God. They place the Bible and the Book of Mormon side by side on their pulpits as soon as they become entrenched in a community.

5. The prophet of Latter Day Saints is a **BOGUS** prophet, Joseph Smith, who used his position to secure for himself houses, lands, money, office and the gratification of his lust. He was the author of the abominable doctrine of plural wives, which may still be found in the book of "Doctrine and Covenants" as a revelation from God to be observed on pain of eternal damnation. In "Doctrine and Covenants" Joe Smith's pretended revelation is as follows: "For behold I reveal unto you a new and everlasting covenant; and if you abide not that covenant then are you damned; for no one can reject this covenant and be permitted to enter into my glory * * * and again as pertaining to the law of Priesthood, if any man espouse a virgin and desire to espouse another, and the first give her consent; and if he espouse the second and they are virgins and have vowed to no other man, then he is justified; for he cannot commit adultery with that that becometh unto him and to none else; and if he have ten virgins given unto him by this law, he cannot commit adultery, for they belong unto him; therefore he is justified."

The wife of Orson Pratt, a prominent Latter Day Saint, said: "This pretended revelation was simply a dishonest trick on the part of Joseph Smith to cloak over his own wicked and immoral life and to keep peace in his household."

This doctrine is a bribe to immorality. The whole system is a reproach on Christianity and a menace to the civil and religious interests of any community. Where Latter Day Saintism is strong enough it sets up a bogus theocracy and attempts to overthrow the civil law as it did in Ohio, Missouri, Illinois and in Utah. Where it is not strong enough to overthrow civil government and defy the law, it attempts to hold the balance of political power and herein lies the danger. Crafty politicians, in order to gain favor and secure votes, are ready to speak a good word at headquarters for them and to defend them if necessary. Business interests also have their influence through the Co-operative Institution established in Latter Day Saint communities. Commercial travellers are expected to say a good word for them in order to secure business. This has been the case in every county and state in the United States where Latter Day Saints are strong and it is almost sure to be the case in Canada and wherever they entrench themselves. By their system of tithes they acquire almost unlimited means by which they have missionaries now at work in Great Britain, Scandinavia, Switzerland, the Netherlands, the United States and many other countries. The poorer classes have held out to them a tempting bait, money to pay their passage out where they can better their worldly condition and at the same time save their souls. Is it any wonder that hundreds of converts are made each year? Servant

girls especially, by the promise of a husband and a home of their own on their arrival out, are lured into the trap by scores. One missionary is said to have induced sixty girls to immigrate.

The conclusion is inevitable that the practice of polygamy is simply held in abeyance at the present time to be revived when Latter Day Saints become politically strong enough to have the law repealed. It is reported to be a dead letter in many places even now. This is the menace of our Canadian West and wherever they become strong. The prediction that the Latter Day Saints would become a menace in the United States was laughed at, yet in a few years they became the great running sore of immorality and have had to be dealt with time and again by the strong arm of the government, both civil and military, at a cost of millions of dollars and the loss of many lives.

The writer of this pamphlet has no personal feelings of bitterness toward Latter Day Saints, but having read widely their literature and standards of doctrine and having visited many of their strongholds, including Salt Lake City, and, having made himself acquainted with their methods of procedure in making converts, has written wholly and solely in what he believes to be the interests of truth and righteousness. All that he has said can readily be proved from their own literature. He is not without hope that even many Latter Day Saints will, after a perusal of these pages, see that they have been building upon a false foundation. With this in view, the writer sends this pamphlet on its mission to expose error and promote truth until the day dawn and shadows flee away.

